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PATENTS

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant(s):** Minoru Tsuruta, et al.

**Examiner:** Unassigned

**Serial No:** 10/084,557

**Art Unit:** Unassigned

**Filed:** February 26, 2002

**Docket:** 15226

**For:** MEDICAL RETRIEVAL INSTRUMENT

**Dated:** May 9, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NOTICE  
OF OMITTED ITEMS IN A NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION**

*Handwritten notes:*  
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Per  
Amended  
A

Sir:

Prior to examination and in response to the Notice of Omitted Items in a Nonprovisional Application issued March 26, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE DRAWINGS:**

Attached is a "Request For Approval of Drawing Changes" accompanying additional Figures 2 and 3.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 9, 2002.

Dated: May 9, 2002

*Signature of Michelle Mustafa*  
Michelle Mustafa